Winter 1991

New Bolton Center Day at the Races

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University Veterinary Medicine Alumni Association Distinguished Alumni Award.

The School was well represented at the American College of Veterinary Radiology 1990 Annual Scientific Meeting. Papers were presented by Dr. Gail K. Smith, V'74, assistant professor of orthopedic surgery; Dr. Jeffrey A. Wertman, H. M. Saunders, and Dr. Curtis G. Schelling, V’85, lecturer in radiology. The 1990 University Research Foundation Award recipients in the School of Veterinary Medicine are: Dr. Michael Goldschmidt, professor of pathology; and Dr. Kevin Stanley, assistant professor of dermatology; Dr. Dieter M. Schifferli, assistant professor of microbiology; and Dr. Paula S. Henthorn, assistant professor of medical genetics.

The Morris Animal Foundation has funded the second phase of a three-year case/control study, examining colic risk factors. The principal investigator of phase 1 of the study was Dr. Charles R. Curtis, who died this fall of leukemia. Dr. Curtis was in large part responsible for the unique approach of computer analysis in use for the colic risk factor study. Dr. Gary Smith, assistant professor of population biology and epidemiology, and Dr. Mathew Reeves, lecturer in epidemiology, have been named co-principle investigators. The principal investigator is Dr. M.D. Salman of Colorado State University.

The Robert H. Winn Foundation has awarded a grant to Dr. Gail K. Smith for the study of hip dysplasia in cats. Dr. Smith also received a grant from The Seeing Eye, Inc. through the Morris Animal Foundation to continue his canine hip dysplasia study.

Dr. Donald A. Abt, V’61, Robert A. Marshak Term Professor of Aquatic Animal Medicine, has been appointed adjunct professor in the Department of Environmental Studies at Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Abt was also appointed to the Board of Directors of the Northeastern Regional Aquaculture Center as the Marine Biological Laboratory’s representative.

Dr. W. Jean Dodds-Berman, adjunct professor of medicine, received the Gaines Fido Award in February, she was named Woman of the Year for her work as director of the Comparative Hematology Laboratory in New York.

New Bolton Center Day at the Races

Dr. Allen Weintraub, whip - despite the weather guests enjoyed a champagne carriage drive to New Bolton Center Day at the Races at Saratoga.

The Veterinary School is fortunate to have the generous support of many friends who made possible the 1990 New Bolton Center Day at the Races. For this special occasion, all the August 10th races at the Saratoga Racecourse except the feature were named to honor outstanding horses including BANKER’S LADY, HEIGHT OF FASHION, HOIST THE FLAG, MISS HUNTINGTON, ROCKEM BACK, SMART ANGLE, WEEKEND SURPRISE and ZACCIO.

One of the guests of honor at the event was the artist, Mr. Peter Williams, who had kindly donated a painting for use on the invitation. Though rain fell on the 10th, it didn’t seem to dampen interest in this lovely oil painting which also was auctioned during the luncheon to benefit the Center.

Mrs. J. Maxwell Moran chaired the Advisory Committee which successfully raised more than $84,000 to support laser surgery research on respiratory problems and to equip the new treadmill area in the sports medicine facility at New Bolton.

NIH Grants

The National Institutes of Health have awarded Dr. David M. Nunamaker, V’68, Jacques Jenny Professor of Orthopedic Surgery, a three-year research grant to study "Fatigue of Bone: Relationships of Exercise." This grant for approximately $777,434 will be undertaken over a three-year time with Dr. Nunamaker as the principal investigator and Dr. Michael Provost, V'88, as a co-investigator in the project. The project is directed at a more complete understanding of fatigue failure as it occurs in bone and at the relationships that different exercise regimes have on the mechanical and geometric parameters of bone and the biological reaction of bone to those exercise programs. The researchers propose to use the horse as a spontaneous model of fatigue failure (bucketed shins) to test the hypothesis that high strain exercise causes decreased stiffness of bone. This study will also reconstruct fracture injury in bone using image analysis techniques to allow for three-dimensional reconstruction on two-dimensional histologic sections.

Dr. Sue M. McDonnell, Director of the Reproductive Behavior Program, has received a five-year "Research Career Development Award," from the National Institute of Neurologic Disorders and Stroke, Division of Fundamental Neurosciences. The project is entitled "Pharmacological Manipulation of Erection and Ejaculation." Mechanisms of mammalian erection and ejaculation will be studied principally in the stallion, but also in bulls and boars.

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease has awarded a five-year grant to Dr. Jay P. Farrell, professor of parasitology and Head, laboratory of parasitology, to study the activation and regulation of T-helper subsets during immune response to cutaneous leishmaniasis. This form of leishmaniasis is caused by a protozoa parasite, Leishmania major. The disease is prevalent in the Middle East, Central and South America, and Asia. Affected people suffer open cutaneous ulcerating lesions, which may take many months, or even years, to resolve.

Honors for Dr. Adrian Morrison

The American Association for the Advancement of Science presented the Scientific Freedom and Responsibility Award to Dr. Adrian Morrison, professor of anatomy and Head, laboratories of anatomy. The tribute cites Dr. Morrison for his dedicated promotion of the responsible use of animals in research and his courageous stand in the face of great personal risk against attempts to curtail animal research essential to public health.

In November 1990 Dr. Morrison received the Distinguished Service Award of the Society for Neurosciences and the Rick Simpson Award, given in memory of the founder of the Incurably Ill for Animal Research. Dr. Morrison is the first recipient of the Mahoney Institute’s newly created Director’s Award, given in recognition of his dedication to neuroscience and his courageous support of the humane and ethical use of animals in biomedical research.